

JAN 16 '02 01:03PM SENATOR BOB GRAHAM

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BOB GRAHAM  
FLORIDA

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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0903

January 16, 2002

Mr. Paul V. Kelly  
Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of Legislative Affairs  
United States Department of State  
2201 C Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20520-0229

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Enclosed is a letter from Helen Hoffman.

I would appreciate your reviewing the information that has been presented and providing me with your comments. Please address your reply to my state office:

United States Senator Bob Graham  
2252 Killearn Center Boulevard, Suite 300  
Tallahassee, Florida 32309-3573  
Attention: Sharon McLanahan

Telephone: (850) 907-1100  
Facsimile: (850) 894-3222

Your cooperation and assistance are greatly appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



United States Senate

BG/slm

Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON  
DATE/CASE ID: 11 DEC 2008 200705645

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JAN 17 AM 8:36  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



## West Palm Beach Office:

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December 21, 2001

Senator Bob Graham  
150 S.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Ste 1025  
Miami, FL 33131  
Attn: Ellen Roth, Director Miami Office

Dear Senator Graham,

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County, we want to express our appreciation to you for your interest in the investigation of the bombing of the Jewish Community Headquarters in Argentina.

As you know, the trial of those indicted in relation to the bombing of the Argentinean Jewish Mutual Aid Association (AMIA) building is currently taking place. The attack, which took place on July 18, 1994, claimed the lives of 86 people and left more than 300 wounded. The attack came two years after a similar attack on the Israeli Embassy on March 17, 1992, that left 129 people dead (In the attack on the Israeli Embassy, there was little progress and not enough material evidence to begin a trial).

Both attacks were carried out, presumably by suicide bombers, who used cars as bombs. About 20 people were accused of complicity on different levels. The most important among them, a car salesman who presumably sold the car used as the bomb in the attack and 4 police officers to whom the car was delivered. The police officer involved is Juan Jose Ribelli, a right hand to the former chief of the Buenos Aires province police. The Buenos Aires police are highly corrupt and the detained policemen are considered to be the key to the local connection and the main providers of logistical support to the terrorists.

The attorneys representing the Jewish community in this case have made a linkage between the Buenos Aires attack and the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. They believe the perpetrators of both attacks came from the same source. Argentinean authorities identified Imad Mugniyah, commander of special operations for Hezbollah and an associate of Osama bin Laden, as one of the suspects of the attacks. The FBI placed Mugniyah on its Most Wanted Terrorists list.

The U.S. also pointed at two additional suspects, Ali Fallahian and Assad Ahmad Barakat. Fallahian was the Iranian Intelligence Minister in 1994,

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